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## **OPI VIDEO UPDATE**

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- Prohibition of Internet Cafés
- State Universities of Academic and Research Excellence and National Preeminence Act
- 2012-13 Budget Update
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- Did You Know?

The House Office of Public Information (OPI) has updated its video library to include:

- Human Trafficking Press Conference
- Rep. Boyd's Closing Remarks on Personal Injury Protection
- Chair Proctor on the State Universities of Academic and Research Excellence and National Preeminence Act

To view the latest OPI videos, please visit the <u>Public Guide</u> page of the <u>House website</u>.

## **N**OTEWORTHY

#### **PIP Reform Approved by the House**

In an effort to prevent the increasing problem of motor vehicle fraud and to reduce the cost of purchasing automobile insurance in Florida, Members of the House of Representatives on Friday, March 2, 2012, passed committee substitute for House Bill 119 - Motor Vehicle Insurance (CS/CS/HB 119). Sponsored by Representative Boyd, the bill revises the existing Personal Injury Protection program, or PIP, to provide medical care coverage (MCC). The bill maintains several aspects of the current system, including the \$10,000 minimum coverage requirement, but modifies other aspects of the coverage. The bill would:

- Base coverage of emergency medical conditions as determined by medical professionals in a hospital within seven days after the accident:
- Allow up to \$2,500 in benefits for treatment of non-emergency medical conditions if an injured person initially goes to the hospital or to a specified health care provider within seven days after the accident; and
- Cap attorney fees in individual disputes.

View more proposed changes to the PIP system

Update to OPI Pulse: Personal Injury Protection

#### House Members Vote to Prohibit Internet Cafés in Florida

The House on Thursday, March 1, 2012, voted to prohibit the use of simulated gambling devices in Internet Cafés. House Bill 3, which creates the Electronic Gambling Prohibition and Community Protection Act, clarifies definitions and laws concerning charitable drawings, game promotions and slot machines. Under this bill, violations of charitable drawing provisions are punishable as a first degree misdemeanor; violations in connection with a game promotion are punishable as a third degree felony. The bill also transfers the oversight of game promotions to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

Read the latest staff analysis of House Bill 3



# Informer

## **NOTEWORTHY** (cont'd)

#### State Universities of Academic and Research Excellence and National Preeminence Act

This week the Appropriations Committee, and later the full House, approved House Bill 7129, which establishes 14 academic and research excellence standards. Under the bill, state universities that meet 11 of the 14 standards would have the authority to establish differential student tuition and fees at differentiated and market rates. The bill also creates a collaborative partnership between the Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature to carry out the mission of the Act.

For a full list of the 14 excellence standards and additional information, read OPI Pulse: State Universities of Academic and Research Excellence and National Preeminence.

#### House Floor Action February 27- March 2, 2012

Members of the Florida House took up 122 bills this week. Of the 122 bills, Members passed or adopted 111. In addition, 57 bills were passed unanimously. Bills passed by the House will now be sent to the Senate for its consideration.

<u>View the Florida House Calendar page</u> to stay up-to-date on the progress of bills.

Look up a bill with the Florida House's Bill Search

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### **Legislative Glossary**

Have you ever wondered the difference between a companion, engrossed, enrolled or compare bill? The House Legislative Glossary can provide you with detailed definitions. The glossary, located on the Public Guide page, provides explanations of terms used often during the legislative process.

If there are terms you would like to see defined in the glossary, feel free to contact the Office of Public Information via email at

<u>publicinfo@myfloridahouse.gov</u> to request items be added.

### RESOURCES



#### **Budget Conference**

Budget Conference is now in full swing. Committee members have been appointed and have been meeting throughout the week to discuss budget allocations for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Use the resources below to navigate the remaining budget process:

- Budget Conference <u>Schedule</u> and <u>Allocations</u>
- All 2012-13 Budget Documents
- OPI Pulse: Understanding Florida's Budget Process

#### **Questions on the Legislative Process**

Have questions on Florida's legislative process?

Want to know what an action on a bill means?

The Frequently Asked Questions page, under the Quick Links section of the House website has the answers you need. There you will find responses to the most common questions asked by constituents.

For additional resources, including highlevel summaries of proposed and current legislation and information on the legislative process, visit the <u>Public Guide</u> page of the House website.